

S-E-C-R-E-T

9 April 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chiefs FBIS Field Bureaus

FROM : Chief, FBIS

SUBJECT : Letter of Instruction

1. No progress was achieved during the month toward obtaining a site for the West African Bureau. The Government of Ghana remained silent and the BBC did not respond to the inquiry about Nigeria. [redacted]

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2. The final and strongest reply to the television survey was received from USIA, echoing other sentiment that the medium does not warrant any major current effort at the expense of broadcast monitoring. As with several other agencies, it urged continued attention to the development of foreign TV. publication of schedules and pilot monitoring of communist telecasts. [redacted]

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3. Two promising Kurdish candidates were located in Turkey. The Chief Monitor, Mediterranean Bureau, will test them in Ankara and Istanbul during the first week of April. Final commitment on a recruit in Ireland is meanwhile being held in abeyance. Indonesian recruiting will be expedited in April through a trip to Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta by the Chief, Saigon Bureau, who may also visit Bangkok to interview Thai candidates and a Cambodian referred by the Voice of America. [redacted]

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4. Technical tests to measure radio noise at the U.S. Embassy, Vienna, showed that the level is too high to permit monitoring in the new Embassy annex. The Chief, Austrian Bureau was therefore instructed to retain present space. [redacted]

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5. After several months of negotiation, USIA accepted and disseminated to all posts a worldwide collection requirement of FBIS for foreign program schedules as printed in newspapers, magazines or station handouts. This will regularize less formal arrangements and should help fill gaps in collection. [redacted]

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6. Although excellent full and speedy coverage of the Iraqi revolt was provided by Mediterranean Bureau, FBIS and other DF-equipped agencies were unable to verify the location of "Mosul Radio" during its brief life. This has caused FBIS to place the DF problem on the agenda of the inter-Office Telecommunications Advisory Committee's April meeting. [redacted]

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7. After a detailed staff analysis of the problem of transferring additional Satellite coverage from the Mediterranean to the Austrian Bureau, a decision was made to suspend the proposal indefinitely. The serious technical and administrative problems to be resolved did not justify further effort in the face of improvement in the Cyprus situation. The Rumanian section transfer already completed will stand. [redacted]

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8. On 13 March representatives of the Addressograph-Multigraph Corporation met with representatives of FBIS and Printing Services Division for a final discussion of the proposal to offset print rather than mimeograph the Daily Report.

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To evaluate this proposal, PSD prepared a study whose findings were negative. [REDACTED]

9. A detailed study revealed that there are now no compelling legal or other reasons to restrict press scrutiny material to the OFFICIAL USE ONLY segments of the Daily Report, except in cases where items are specifically and individually protected by copyright or other privilege. Field bureaus have been instructed to indicate those items of press scrutiny which carry an individual and specific republication caveat. [REDACTED]

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10. Of 347 items included in the OCI Daily Digest during the month, 100 (29 percent) were based wholly or in part on FBIS sources. [REDACTED]

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11. Radio Propaganda Reports: [REDACTED]

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- a. "Soviet Media Suppress Saburov Speech at CPSU Congress"
- b. "Changing Soviet Attitudes Toward Asian-African Neutrals"
- c. "Top CPSU Presidium Hierarchy Indicated in PRAVDA Obituary Notice"
- d. "Consolidation of the Cult of Khrushchev at the XXI CPSU Congress"
- e. "Bulgarian Party Moves to Strengthen Control over Army"

12. Special Propaganda Analysis Services: [REDACTED]

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a. A review of Peking radio treatment of the Algerian provisional government was prepared at the request of OISD, DD/P. OISD expressed appreciation for the expeditious handling of the request, which was filled within four hours.

b. An analysis of the volume and content of Peking radio propaganda on scientific developments in Communist China was prepared for USIA/IRI, in support of a project on countering possible Chinese Communist claims to leadership of Asian science.

c. Report No. 5 on Soviet radio exploitation of U.S. press sources was issued in response to the Director's request for semiannual reporting on the subject.

d. Khrushchev statements on the German question from November 1958 to March 1959 were assembled for the Chairman, Berlin Committee, USIB. A report on Soviet home service deemphasis of "war psychosis" charges against the United States was prepared for the same requestor in support of the Berlin Committee's weekly report.

e. Propaganda-analysis report No. 79 for the U.S. delegation at the Geneva test-ban talks was forwarded to OCI on 19 March for incorporation in the Agency support cable to the delegation. This service was suspended on 20 March when the talks recessed, to be resumed 13 April.

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13. Propaganda-analysis items on the FBIS Wire included: [REDACTED]

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- a. a discussion of new Peking propaganda charges against the Laotian Government, and
- b. background on an unusual sharp Soviet official warning of nuclear retaliation against the network of NATO bases in the event of Western "aggression."

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14. FBIS has arranged to occupy [REDACTED] in Panama as an FBIS monitoring post. [REDACTED] The actual move will take place in May or June 1959. [REDACTED]

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15. [REDACTED] in FY 59 Funds has been set up for procurement of short-wave multicouplers. Procurement will be accomplished in time to obligate funds. Although it appears most likely that the coupler procured will be the Westinghouse model, the CGS coupler is still being considered. The CGS commercial model is now being tested by FBIS. [REDACTED]

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16. Teletype supervisors are requested to insure that "bells" are not used on test tapes. Not only is it annoying to the receiving station, but there is a real danger that the announcement of high precedence traffic on another circuit may be missed. [REDACTED]

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EDITORIAL BRANCH

## 1. General

a. All bureaus concerned are to be commended for the excellent coverage of the Mosul rebellion in Iraq, Nasir's subsequent attacks on communism, and reaction to these developments from various key countries. Thanks to the Mediterranean Bureau's judicious use of the higher precedence indicators, the first hint of trouble in Iraq was available to FBIS Wire Service consumers four hours before it was reported by domestic news services. The wire scored a similar scoop with Nasir's March 11 speech criticizing Qasim.

b. The Okinawa and West Coast bureaus' rapid, accurate coverage of the Tibetan revolt (initially indicated by the failure of Lhasa radio to broadcast) and the dispatch of supplementary FYI's and editorial reports produced a highly professional final product. Rapid processing of Peking's initial announcements on the revolt gave the wire a clear one-hour beat on commercial services. Of particular value was Okinawa's report noting the Peking International Service's selective beaming of the principal communiques.

c.(1) It is noted that the field sometimes fails to make sufficient use of the FYI, which could serve to reduce the volume of copy without loss of essential information, and can in other circumstances keep the wire up to date in rapidly developing situations.

(2) When an FYI is intended to provide the essence of a speech or official announcement still in progress or recently completed, it should be so worded as to be readily usable on the FBIS Wire. The FYI should highlight the main points of the item through the use of direct quotations whenever possible, but should indicate the circumstances under which the speech or announcement was made, and provide an estimate of when the full text will be available.

(3) A quite different kind of FYI is that which collates a number of diverse items intercepted over a period of time for easy reproduction in the Daily Report. An example is the amalgamation of regional items, broadly relating to the same subject, into a single FYI reporting common characteristics which can be published as an editor's note. This device gives the reader a better all-round picture of the activities being reported than a series of isolated briefs.

(4) A third type of FYI is that which summarizes a number of Soviet commentaries on repetitive or recurring themes, thus enabling us to keep the reader informed of the tenor of Soviet broadcasts without publishing lengthy texts or excerpts. This type of FYI most appropriately includes a description of the subject matter with occasional representative quotations, and reports the volume of material, its format, the target audience, and other characteristics

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of broadcast treatment. An example of such an FYI, filed by the London Bureau, appears on page BB 23 of the March 6 USSR/EE Daily Report.

d. A tendency to overfile marginal material has been demonstrated by several bureaus which provide Soviet regional briefs. Examples of items which could well have been dispensed with include one reporting the opening of a night dispensary in Sovetskaya Gavan, another which reported a change in the hours of a central department store, and another reporting International Women's Day meetings in Baku.

e. The occasional failure of field editors to indicate that an item is the first of a specified or estimated number of takes has complicated Wire Service procedures for keeping track of multitake items and created difficulties for Daily Report editors in planning for publication. If the required subslug supplying this information is inadvertently omitted from the lead take of a multitake item, a separate correction should be filed immediately to alert headquarters editors.

f. Field editors are cautioned against rerunning (ZEL) entire items in order to make editorial changes or to supply short passages dropped in teletyping.

g. Consistent use of the following preferred terms would be appreciated: "voivod" and "voivodship" for "province" and "provincial" in Polish copy; "korunas" instead of "koruny" and "deutsche mark(s)" instead of the abbreviation "DM" (except in tabulations)--both in accordance with the 1959 GPO Style Manual; "League of Yugoslav Communists" as the official title of the Yugoslav communist party; and "Hungarian Soviet Republic" to describe the 1919 Bela Kun regime in Hungary.

h. It has been noted that headquarters requests for expeditious processing of specific items have sometimes been interpreted as warranting extraordinary measures including the use of considerable overtime to advance the time of filing. This misconception seems to have been furthered by headquarters use of such expressions as "need priority," "need as soon as possible," etc., when no more was desired than precedence in processing over other available materials. To prevent such misunderstandings in the future, the Editorial Branch has been instructed to use the word "priority" in its requests only when dispatch to headquarters by PRIORITY message precedence is desired. When a headquarters request for expeditious processing cannot be met without the use of extensive overtime, this fact should be reported to headquarters promptly, accompanied by details of the amount of overtime involved, and an opinion solicited as to whether the quality of the material merits the expenditure.

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## 2. East and West Coast Bureaus, Panama Post

Cruising monitors and monitors have done a very creditable job of running down the various clandestine transmitters and "antidictator" broadcasts which have mushroomed in the Caribbean area in the wake of the Cuban civil war. The orderly reports assessing the characteristics performance and of these radios have served to clarify what could easily have been a confusing situation.

## 3. Austrian Bureau

a. Whenever the bureau foresees the processing of several items which are logically linked--e.g., presidium member speeches to electoral constituencies, generals' speeches on an army day, etc.--it should advise headquarters by FYI of the date it plans to complete processing. This will enable editors to plan publication of related materials in one Daily Report.

b. FYI's advising headquarters of the planned processing date and total wordage of items which have already been carried in substantial summary form by the radio are most useful. Frequently the Daily Report can hold up publication of the broadcast item until the press fill-ins are received and thus print the complete text in one issue.

c. In handling routine Bratislava television material, a concise FYI characterizing the program in general rather than summarizing each element in it is more appropriate for Daily Report purposes than the present detailed reports of the monitor's summary type. The FYI may also include the necessary technical information, a description of the television techniques employed, etc.

d. When unusual names in copy (e.g., Zdilislaw) might be construed as a garble, please use a confirming repetition.

## FIELD SUPPORT OF THE RADIO PROPAGANDA BRANCH

1. An Austrian Bureau study of new Bulgarian Communist Party efforts to assert control over the army, prepared at the bureau's initiative, was used as the basis for a Radio Propaganda Report.

2. Editors are referred to page six, paragraph three of the section on Field Support of RPB in the 20 March Letter of Instruction, on the importance of specifying the general substance of passages deleted editorially from bloc copy in the field for space or other reasons. The editorial note "passage quoting SUDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG omitted" in a Moscow commentary on German issues was one recent example of a notation that should have been expanded to indicate the nature of the remarks the Moscow commentator quoted.

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ADMINISTRATION

1. The paper work load on the Headquarters staff continues to increase. Staff officers have recently been directed to seek means of reducing this burden. Field bureau chiefs should also strive for this goal by: (a) greater use of teletype messages where possible to substitute for letters and memoranda, (b) greater brevity in correspondence, (c) deletion of unnecessary reports, and forms, etc.. Suggestions from bureau personnel relating to this problem would be welcomed.

2. Imprest Fund Cashiers are advised that an audit of the fund must be performed every six months and the report forwarded through this office to the Fiscal Division.

3. All personnel and their dependents are advised that they may not send mail to Mediterranean Bureau foreign nationals addressed to the Fleet Post Office. This P.O. may be used only for U. S. Citizens.

4. Effective immediately the current GEHA Emergency Travel Insurance plan is cancelled and a new plan substituted. Certificates now in force will be continued to the expiration date of the certificate; however, no renewals were accepted beyond 31 March 1959. Bureaus have been supplied complete information, insurance rates and sample forms by memorandum dated 30 March 1958.

5. Because Headquarters staff files are subjective, administrative messages referring to another message should include a word or phrase to identify the subject to the addressee. Also, to insure proper distribution to interested persons, Bureaus are reminded that answers to administrative messages must be made by administrative messages and not by editorial service messages.

6. FBIS basic cable procedure for administrative messages requires that check numbers of multiple-addressee messages be placed in the order in which stations are called in the teletype heading. Since the introduction of allocated channel procedures, the RELAY flag has been considered a part of the heading for this purpose. Check number sequence is not determined by the order in which Bureau personnel are named in the administrative address line. The following example illustrates this point:

1 2  
RR RUAPLI RUMPFB  
DE RUEPSE \_\_\_\_\_ A  
R \_\_\_\_\_ Z  
FM FBIS WASHDC  
TO RUAPLI/FBIS CHITOSE JAPAN  
RUMPFB/FBIS SAIGON  
ZEN/FBIS TOKYO  
FBIS GRNC  
BT 3 4  
UNCLAS TK RELAY OW RUAP

1 2 3 4   FROM SEELY WA  

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*"Exhibiting  
affected by a  
peculiar  
temperament"  
According  
to Webster*

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PERSONNEL CHANGES

1. Reassignments

From

Editor,  
German Bur.

To

Editor, Ed. Br.

STAT

Editor,  
Okinawa Bur.

Editor, Ed. Br.

2. Separations

From

Secretary  
RPB

STAT

STAT

ROGER G. SEELY

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